Coastal Working Group Meeting Report

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Background

- Coastal Working Group (CWG) initiated in 2005
- CWG supports the Hydraulics, Hydrology and Coastal (HH&C) CoP, however cross-CoP boundaries (EN/PL/OP/CO/R&D)
- Covers the Flood Risk Management, Navigation, and Ecosystems Business Lines

Background

- Consists of USACE representatives from:
  - Pacific, Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Great Lakes Districts and Divisions
  - Researchers from ERDC
  - Staff from IWR and HQ
- Cross “community” borders
  - Engineering and Construction
  - Planning & Project Management
  - Operations and Regulatory
  - Research and Development

Objectives

- Strive to Improve Coastal ***Community***
- Develop/Shorten Lines of ***Communication***
- Share Knowledge, Successes, Experiences
- Maintain and Build ***Competency*** Nationwide
- Provide forums for group discussions, technology transfer

Communications

- CWG Teleconferences
  - 2nd Thursday of Each Month
  - Announcements and issues
  - Technical Presentations
  - Forum for group discussions
- Every other Month the CWG Teleconferences hosted by a Division to keep the community information flowing
- Distribution of Items of Interest through the CWG email list (over 300 staff throughout the Corps)
- Input to the Flood Risk Management Newsletter
- Next Steps: Use FRM website as CWG communications tool

Community

- Annual CWG Meetings
  - Infrastructure Systems Conference, St. Louis 2005
  - CWG Workshop, Vicksburg May 2006
  - Infrastructure Systems Conference, Detroit 2007
  - CWG Workshop, Vicksburg June 2008
- 2009
  - CWG Meeting in conjunction with Coastal Engineering Research Board Meeting, San Diego, 1-2 June 2009
  - Coastal Competency Track at the Infrastructure Conference, Cleveland, July 2009

Community - 2009 CWG Meeting

- Community Awareness: what's going on in the coastal community: District/Division Blitz
- Panel Presentations and Discussions of National Coastal Issues: Coastal Data Needs, Climate Change, Regional Sediment Management, Guidance Updates, Research Needs and Opportunities, Technical Competencies
- CERB members invited, fostering dialogue
- Identified Actions to Improve the Coastal CWG

chnical Competence- CWG Subcommitte

- Development of Teams for Climate Change Work; Support of Action for Change Theme 1 Sea Level Rise Work
- Coastal Models Subcommittee
- Guidance Update Subcommittee
- Technical Contacts/Experience Listing
- Training Needs/Opportunities Subcommittee
- Other Technical Subcommittees as Needed (issues brought forward at CWG meetings and teleconferences)
- Continue to Work w/ERDC/CHL on R&D input
- Develop Process to Address National CWG Issues (less ad hoc)

Review of CWG Activities- Technical Competence (1/3)

Coastal technical/institutional issues brought forward from the 2009 CWG meeting:

- Data Collection Standards, Next Steps on Data Issues, Data Needs and Sharing, Establish a District CWG POC on Coastal Data Issues
- Vertical Datum Requirements
- More Involvement in IOOS RA's
- Regional Sediment Management: Use of New Authorities
- The Federal Standard for use of Dredge Material
- Working with Stakeholders early and often

Review of CWG Activities- Technical Competence (2/3)

- Research Area Review Groups for future R&D: Need Better Reach Back to field on process, outcomes of RARG; Product Review by Field Members

- Beachfx: Needs funds for continued development, CHL assistance is available, Districts need to help each other

- Sea Level Rise and Climate Change: Pending New Guidance, Planning for Multiple Scenarios, Impacts to Existing Projects, Planning for New Projects, Coordination w/other Fed Agencies, Coordination w/Local Government Requirements

Review of CWG Activities- Technical Competence (3/3)

- Guidance Updates: Guidance lagging behind technology, Searchable Coastal Engineering Manual. Need a process to evaluate existing documents, prioritize what needs to be improved, post-Katrina guidance updates
- Promote Hydrology, Hydraulics and Coastal Community Integration
- Maintaining Technical Competency - Regionalization, Training Needs, Workload
- Develop more guidance to support risk and uncertainty analyses and design for coastal processes

2009 Challenges for the CWG

- Outreach to All Coastal Staff Across Divisions (PL, EN, CO, OP, PPMD), Business Lines (FRM, NAV, ENV) and Regions
- Increase Involvement of District CWG POC's
- Develop a formal Mission Statement and Charter
- Continue and Improve productive subcommittees/efforts
- Getting more CWG Volunteers who see these are fulfilling, necessary efforts